

BOROUGH OF CHARD.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year ending 31st December 1909.

To the Mayor and Members of the Chard Town Council.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour of submitting to you my report for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1909.

The various percentages for calculating the birth and death rates are based on an estimated population of 4,500.

BIRTHS.—The total number of births registered was 112, being an increase of 13 over last year; male births being 51, female births 61. The rate is 24.9 per 1,000 of estimated population; the average for the last ten years is 23.9.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths registered was 50, being 16 more than previous year; the death rate is 15.5 per 1,000 of estimated population; the average rate per 1,000 for the last 10 years is 16.4. 14 deaths occurred in the Union Workhouse, 11 being non-resident; excluding these, the death rate is 13.1.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—13 infants died under the age of one year, giving a rate of 115.1 per 1,000 births registered; the average rate for the preceding 10 years was 120.8. Five of these deaths were due to premature birth. I point this out to shew that very few deaths have occurred from possible preventable causes, i.e. defects in feeding or hygiene. Deaths occurred at the following ages:—

Under 1 year	...	...	13
1 and under 5	...	...	2
5 "	...	15	3
15 "	...	25	2
25 "	...	65	19
65 and upwards	...	20	—
			59

CAUSES OF DEATH.—Pulmonary Tuberculosis 7. Other Tubercular diseases 1. Enteritis 5. Cancer 2. Accidents 4. Old age 8. Other diseases 32. There were not any deaths from Zymotic disease.

DISEASES NOTIFIED.—Scarlatina 4.

VACCINATION.—I am indebted to the Vaccination Officer for the following returns:—

Number of children born	...	...	112
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	66
Died unvaccinated	...	...	9
Postponed	...	...	2
Conscientious objections	...	...	24
Under 4 months of age...	...	...	11
			112

COWSHEDS.—The general condition of the cowsheds is satisfactory. The interiors are kept cleaner and freer of cowwebs. On the whole, the yards were well kept and free from collections of manure. In regard to the yard at Tapstone, improvements have been effected according to instructions, which is satisfactory, as the condition of this yard has been bad for some years past, in spite of frequent notices served to have the defects remedied. The regulations as to limewashing have been well kept.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.—The regulation as to limewashing have been complied with, and the dairies are clean and well kept.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES have been regularly inspected. There are five slaughter-houses in the Borough; these have been visited at times of slaughtering by the Sanitary Inspector and myself.

The slaughter-houses are kept limewashed and fairly clean. There is no Inspector with a special certificate in meat inspection. No carcases were found to be tuberculous.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—This act has not been adopted.

Part III of the Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907, has not been adopted.

There are 18 pail privies in the borough, which will be converted to the water carriage system when the scheme for the new water supply is carried out.

No action has been taken by the Council in causing dairy cows to be examined by veterinary surgeons in regard to the test for Tuberculosis in cows.

BAKEHOUSES have been regularly inspected, and found in good order and well managed.

WATER SUPPLY.—The water supply is inefficient. This matter has received the most earnest attention of the Council, and a fresh scheme is now to be tried to obtain an adequate supply of pure water.

SCHOOLS.—Various new rules and regulations have been issued by the County Medical Officer of Health and chief School Medical Inspectors, and the Local Government Board has issued a memorandum, one of the chief objects of which is to prevent the spread of infection of Zymotic diseases, measles, and whooping cough amongst the school children. These regulations have added very considerably to my ever-increasing duties, and to those of the Sanitary Inspector.

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME.—The new work is well in hand. The sewage farm is very well managed, and the effluent has on analysis shewn very satisfactory results, which is chiefly due to the close personal supervision given by the Borough Surveyor.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS have been thoroughly inspected. At the request of H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, I have made a special enquiry and have issued a report thereon on the Sanitary Accommodation in Factories and Workshops. On the whole, the condition of the closets and urinals was satisfactory. In two cases there was want of cleanliness, and in one a defect. All have been remedied.

HOMEWORKERS have been regularly inspected, and the regulations as a whole were well carried out.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS.—Under this Act, I have only received one notification. In this case all the house was thoroughly disinfected, bedding and carpet destroyed, monetary compensation being allowed. In several other cases, the sanitary inspector has disinfected bedrooms and sitting-rooms at the voluntary request of the occupiers.

THE YEAR'S WORK.—I find the general health and sanitation of the Borough in a very satisfactory condition. We have a low death rate, hardly any infectious disease, due in a great measure, as I have before pointed out, to the careful and hard work of the Sanitary Inspector, and every year I myself find more and more work to do, but it is some satisfaction to find the health of the borough so good.

In conclusion, I beg, gentlemen, to thank you for your kind support. I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. NEVILLE B. VISE,

Medical Officer of Health, Chard Borough.

Report on the Dairies and Cowsheds.

To the Mayor and Members of the Chard Town Council.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour of submitting to you my report on the dairies and cowsheds. The general condition of the cowsheds and dairies is satisfactory. The regulations as to limewashing have been complied with; the interiors are well kept.

SNOWDON FARM.—Cowsheds limewashed, clean, and well kept. The yard should be kept cleaner. Dairy clean and well kept.

GUPPY FARM (J. BEATON).—Cowsheds limewashed and well kept. The yard should be kept cleaner. Dairy not used.

GUPPY SMITH'S.—Cowsheds and dairy exceptionally well kept and limewashed.

POLLARDS AND CRIMCHARD FARM.—Cowsheds limewashed and well kept; dairy not used.

NEW HOUSE.—Sheds limewashed and well kept; yard well kept. Dairy clean; the ceiling has been repaired, and the gully in the dairy has been removed. The floor should be re-paved.

IVY FARM.—Dairy clean and well kept. Cowsheds not used.

CHARD FARM.—Cowsheds limewashed and well kept, the floor being especially well kept. The yard is being re-paved, according to instructions. Dairy limewashed and clean.

OLD TOWN.—Sheds and dairy limewashed. Clean and very well kept.

T. WARREN'S FARM.—Cowsheds and dairy limewashed and well kept.

ROBERTS' FARM.—Cowsheds and dairy limewashed and well kept.

TOOCHES FARM.—Cowsheds not limewashed. Cowsheds not in use. Tenant leaving.

TAPSTONE.—Cowsheds limewashed and well kept. Dairy clean and well kept. Improvements in this yard have at last been carried out according to notice served: the yard is now clean and well kept.

In conclusion, I am glad to say that the general condition of the cowsheds and dairies is very satisfactory, and great credit is due to the Sanitary Inspector for the most able way he carries out his duties, and I take this opportunity of thanking the cowkeepers and dairymen for helping me in my efforts to make the cowsheds and dairies a good example to other and similar districts, for only by cleanliness and strict adherence to the regulations can the healthy condition of the Borough be maintained.

Your obedient servant,

J. NEVILLE B. VISE,

Medical Officer of Health Chard Borough.

December 29, 1909.

ATTENTIONERS.

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adder and Skin conditions

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